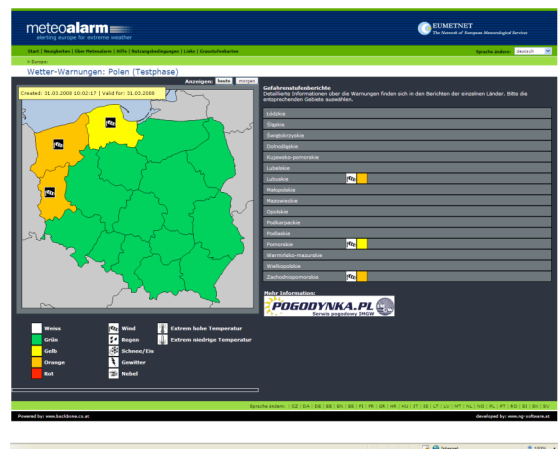
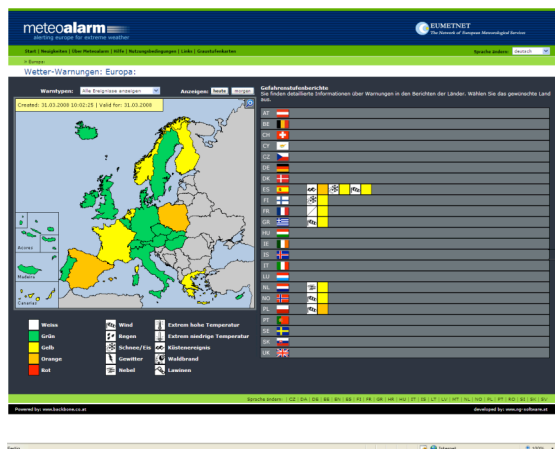


EUMETNET is a network grouping 24 European National Meteorological Services. In the project meteoalarm 29 European National Meteorological Services cooperate under the leadership of ZAMG and KNMI on the topic of coordinated weather warnings across Europe.

Partners: ZAMG (AT), RMI (BE), MeteoSwiss (CH), Meteorological Service (CY), CHMI (CZ), DWD (DE), DMI (DK), EMHI (EE), INM (ES), FMI (FI), Météo France (FR), HNMS (GR), DHMZ (HR), OMSZ (HU), MET Éirann (IE), IMO (IS), USAM (IT), SMAL (LU), LEGMA (LV), MIA (MT), KNMI (NL), MET.NO (NO), IMGW (PL), IM (PT), INMH (RO), SMHI (SE), EARS (SI), SHMU (SK), Met Office (UK)

**31.3.2008 11 am (CEST)**

**The Polish National Meteorological Service IMGW joins the EUMETNET project EMMA and will publish Europe-wide harmonized weather warnings from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 onwards on the website [www.meteoalarm.eu](http://www.meteoalarm.eu)**



“Joining the platform METEOALARM is an important step for IMGW, as it integrates our Service in Europe-wide activities essential to the Polish and European society under critical weather conditions” says Prof. Mieczyslaw S. Ostojski, Director-General of the Institute of Meteorology and Water Management.

IMGW will issue warnings for extreme cases of wind, rain, thunderstorm, snow/ice, fog, high and low temperatures. Warnings will be given for the time periods of up to 48 hours for 16 regions within Poland. Warnings on severe weather events like the storm Emma will in the future be issued in a harmonized way with other European Meteorological Services, which, in the case of EMMA were the weather services of Ireland, Belgium and Germany.

The warnings are addressed to the general public in Poland and to a large group of users ranging from European tourists in Polish ski resorts to people living on the coast, needing warnings for coastal surges. Particular problems can arise from low temperatures, when temperatures fall as low as minus 25°C, causing large problems to the infrastructure.

Weather warnings are transmitted to the Crisis Management Centres which can optimize prevention measures and necessary operations according to the detailed description of the weather development contained in the warnings issued by IMGW.

For more information and permanent updates consult: [www.meteoalarm.eu](http://www.meteoalarm.eu)

or the meteoalarm Program Manager:

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and/or Press contact for IMGW, Edyta Wozniak IMGW Warsaw Tel.: +48 22 5694 504

### Significance of the meteoalarm colours:

**White:**

Missing, insufficient, outdated or suspicious data.

**Green:**

No particular awareness of the weather is required.

**Yellow:**

The weather is potentially dangerous. The weather phenomena that have been forecast are not unusual, but be attentive if you intend to practice activities exposed to meteorological risks. Keep informed about the expected meteorological conditions and do not take any avoidable risk.

**Orange:**

The weather is dangerous. Unusual meteorological phenomena have been forecast. Damage and casualties are likely to happen. Be very vigilant and keep regularly informed about the detailed expected meteorological conditions. Be aware of the risks that might be unavoidable. Follow any advice given by your authorities.

**Red:**

The weather is very dangerous. Exceptionally intense meteorological phenomena have been forecast. Major damage and accidents are likely, in many cases with threat to life and limb, over a wide area. Keep frequently informed about detailed expected meteorological conditions and risks. Follow orders and any advice given by your authorities under all circumstances, be prepared for extraordinary measures.